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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/635,121	08/06/2003	Carolyn I. Duty	4020-005	2075
1400	7590	10/29/2004	EXAMINER	
			MAI, TRI M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3727	
DATE MAILED: 10/29/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/635,121	DUTY, CAROLYN I.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tri M. Mai	3727	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date, _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/08/04, 08/22/03</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action supersedes the previous Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1-3, 7-13, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duty (5044699) in view of either Giugliano (584870) or Barnes (6070729). Duty teaches two bags and a plurality of straps holding the bag together. Duty meets all claimed limitations except for the single strap. Giugliano teaches that it is known in the art to provide a strap mediate the handle F. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the strap F in Duty as taught by Giugliano to provide an alternative security means. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a single strap to save material.

Barnes teaches that it is known in the art to provide single strap mediate the handle 18. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a single strap mediate the handle in Barnes as taught by Giugliano to provide an alternative security means.

3. Claims 4-6, 14, and 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duty in view of either Barnes or Giugliano, and further in view of England (D206985). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide pockets in either Duty combinations as taught by England to store additional items. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the pockets accessible to access the contents easily.

4. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Duty rejection, as set forth above, and further in view of Young et al. (4960204) or Bearman

(5288150). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to construct the bag from a different kind of material (e.g. transparent plastic) in Duty rejection as taught by either Young or Bearman to enable one to see the inside contents of the pocket.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tri M. Mai whose telephone number is (703)308-1038. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lee W Young can be reached on (703)308-2572. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tri M. Mai
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3727